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—BY—

W. C. SMITH.

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## Republican State Executive Committee.

State at Large—R. E. Young, J. H. Harris, G. T. Wassom, A. V. Dockery and T. L. Hargraves.

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- 2nd Dis.—H. E. Davis.
- 3rd Dis.—G. C. Scourlock.
- 4th Dis.—J. H. Williamson.
- 5th Dis.—R. M. Douglass.
- 6th Dis.—W. C. Coleman.
- 7th Dis.—H. C. Cowles.
- 8th Dis.—W. G. Boyle.
- 9th Dis.—V. S. Luske.

## THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

The general assembly of the Knights of Labor is in session in Richmond Va. this week. This is the most significant assembly ever convened in the South. This is known to be one of the most powerful organizations now in the country and can be turned into a source of great good or evil. It is different from trades unions in that it admits common laborers to membership as well as mechanics. The organization was formed, we think in one of the northern or western States, a dozen years ago, and just recently made its way in the South. It is a secret organization with a female department, and is making rapid advancement among both males and females.

There are separate assemblies for white and colored, but this body in session in Richmond has both white and colored delegates which has been a topic for much newspaper talk. Governor Lee of Virginia, a nephew of Gen. Robt. E. Lee was responded to in behalf of the Knights by a colored member, who had the brain, the delivery and all that was necessary to make a good impression by a good speech. It seems that colored gentleman was selected by his brethren because he had been refused admission to a hotel. Charlotte's colored delegate is Mr. J. Will Brown, a young man of fine parts, and though he does not mesmerise the body with his eloquence, he has the qualities to dispatch the business of the order put in his hands and the discretion to act as a sensible man in any body. The Charlotte assembly did credit to itself and the order when it chose to be represented in that august body by sober brains rather than gas.

The assembling of this body south of Masons and Dixons line is of itself, remarkable. There is said to be a thousand delegates present and the body will be in session two or three weeks. They are having grand receptions, dances &c. The parade will come off next Monday. We hope the influence of the order will be properly directed and much good will surely come from the Knights of Labor.

## STAND ON PRINCIPLE.

"Public office is a public trust," is a true principle but we are in favor of this public trust being administered by true republicans and having republican trustees in all matters of public interest to the party.

To farm out the rank and file of our party to a bakers dozen of hungry office seekers of the democratic party we will never approve. Hiring day in this country is over now and we are as free as any people under the sun. Let colored men maintain their freedom and frown down any set of men or any means that has the least tendency to restrict us in our liberties or constitutional rights.

This proposition to turn us over to repudiated democracy is another move to hire us out, and in this case the auctioneers are the only parties that get the pay. Let us insist upon

a republican ticket in the field and then we will see how the independents will vote. They will not have the manliness to come up to the box and support a republican candidate, but will pretend to have a holy horror for negro rule and negro supremacy. They are now exceedingly cautious in their movements; afraid that they may be accused of affiliating with the republican party, but are hurried and rubbed down every morning by the ring masters who are training them for the race. The intelligent colored man can understand their movements.

The MESSENGER will at all times give its most cordial support to whatever will be of permanent benefit to the colored race, but we are unable to see any good in this so-called independent movement. It is an entire surrender of party principle and party organization. We have had enough of this in the last few years to convince us that there is no good in it. To keep party organization and enforce party discipline, we must have republicans on our ticket who will openly advocate our principle. If these independents are ashamed of the colored man and afraid to cooperate with us in our public meetings, we will have no use for him on the day of election. Remember this republicans.

There are 3000 colored voters in this county who uniformly vote the republican ticket. Can it be possible that the republican party has been in existence in the county more than twenty years and there are none in the party worthy of the support of what is known as the independent element who are so much opposed to the Bourbon democracy? Can this be true? It seems to us this is a stigma upon the party, which every true republican ought to resent at the ballot box.

We are fighting for principle in this campaign. Past experience has taught us that liberalism, coalition and independentism mean no good for us as a party. It is an effort of designing men to put upon us the repudiated element of the old democracy—the worst element under the sun.

## The Latest Jewelry Craze.

The newest and latest jewelry craze has reached Philadelphia. It is a curious little porte bonheur, said to be more efficacious in commanding fortune than even the horseshoe of the fathers. It is said to have originated in Egypt in the years when the pyramids were young, and bears the original name of Oudja, which signifies happiness tempered with good luck. It is in the form of a thin, flat, oblong of metal intaglio, and bearing the eye of the Sun-god Horus, from which a tear-drop falls, intended to represent the mysterious origin of the river Nile. The Pharaohs regarded it as a talisman, capable of warding off adversity as well as of promoting prosperity, and it is found sculptured on the rocks, cut on pillars, and engraved on mummy cases. In London this new charm is becoming quite the rage, ordinary furor being stimulated by the curious history said to have attended its introduction into England and modern civilization.

The fair young wife of a gallant officer in the Guards received one from her husband fighting in the Soudan with the legend: "This is the charm which protected the cultivators of ancient Egypt against misfortune; may it act likewise in your favor and insure brilliant days for your future." A report came soon after that the guardsman had fallen a victim to duty and honor. But the young wife had conceived a superior faith in her Oudja and refused to believe, despite published official news of his death. An extraordinary escape and unexpected return of the officer has been accredited to the protecting influence of the Egyptian talisman, and in fashionable circles the Oudja is speedily becoming all the wear.—Philadelphia Times.

A vermin exterminator of Boston recently offered to clear a large brewery of a vast quantity of flies which had collected by the million in the beer hogsheads, for \$250. The proprietor agreed to the terms and the man went to work. "Roll these barrels into the ice-room," he said. The barrels were rolled into the room where ice was made. "Freeze 'em!" said the vermin exterminator. The brewery men were surprised that they had not thought of that simple remedy. They tried it, and in a short time swept out countless numbers of frozen flies.

The Naval Board of Inspection has found hailing from the port of New York alone 102 American iron steamships of over 2,000 tons, capable of running fourteen knots an hour, and fitted for auxiliary cruisers in case of war.

## EARTHQUAKES.

### AN ACCOUNT OF THE NOTED UPHEAVALS IN AMERICA.

Famous Quakings in the Mississippi Valley—The Severe Earthquake in the East—Visitations in South America.

This continent has repeatedly been visited by earthquakes since its discovery in 1492. One of the most notable was that which occurred in 1811 near New Madrid, in Missouri, in the valley of the Mississippi River. That famous earthquake, according to Humboldt, presented one of the few examples of the incessant quaking of the ground for several successive months far from any volcano. Over an extent of country stretching for 300 miles southward from the mouth of the Ohio River the ground rose and sank in great undulations, and lakes were formed and were again drained. The surface burst open in fissures that generally trended northeast and southwest and were sometimes more than half a mile long; from these fissures mud and water were thrown, often as high as the tops of the trees. The disturbances continued over what has since been called "the sunk country" until March 26, 1812, when they ceased coincidentally with the great earthquake of Caracas.

The most severe earthquake that has been recorded in the Middle and Eastern States was that of November 18, 1755. The shock then felt in New England was a wave moving from either the same center whence emanated the tremendous disturbance that had destroyed Lisbon the first day of the month, or from a center whose activity had been stimulated by the continual quakings that then prevailed from Iceland to the Mediterranean. This earthquake began in Massachusetts with a roaring noise like that of thunder: after a minute's continuance of this there came the first severe shock with a swell like that of a long, rolling sea—a swell so great that men in the open fields ran to seize something by which to hold on lest they should be thrown down. After two or three lesser shocks there came the most violent of all, producing a quick, horizontal tremor with sudden jerks and wrenches; this continued two minutes, and after a slight revival died away. Numerous other shocks followed in the course of a month. In Boston the main shock threw down many chimneys, wind vanes and brick buildings, and throughout the country it threw down the rude stone walls bounding the farms; new springs of water were opened, the vessels in the harbor felt the shock; large numbers of fish were killed and floated to the surface of the water. Nine hours afterward, at 2 o'clock p. m., a sea wave, twenty feet high, arrived at the harbor of St. Martin's in the West Indies.

On October 19, 1870, occurred the most considerable shock that has been observed in the Middle and Eastern States in the present century. From near Quebec the shock spread to St. John, N. B., and thence westward to Chicago and southward to New York. The velocity of the wave of shock was about 14,000 feet per second. The occurrence of the shock felt at Quebec was telegraphed to Montreal by the operators of the Montreal Telegraph Company in time to call the attention of those at the latter city to the phenomena about thirty seconds before the shock reached them.

In California the earthquake of 1852 destroyed one of the Southern Missions. That of March 23, 1872, was the most severe that has occurred there during many years. Special damage was done in San Francisco by the cracking of the walls of fine public buildings.

In Nevada the mining regions suffered in 1871 by the destruction of Lone Pine and other settlements.

A shock of earthquake was felt in this part of the country on August 10, 1894, at 2:07 p. m. There were two distinct shocks, occurring within an interval of a few seconds, and lasting about a quarter of a minute. At the Signal Office the men in charge felt the shock at 2:14 p. m., and the advices which they received from Signal Stations in various parts of the country gave reason to believe that the current was an erratic and irregular one. It was felt through a belt of territory extending from Washington to Portland, Me., and from the Atlantic coast as far west as Toledo.

At midnight on June 11, 1886, a strange tremor was felt at Sandy Hook and Coney Island. No shock was felt elsewhere in the United States, but in the West Indies a pronounced shock was felt on the Island of Antigua the day before, at which time earthquakes occurred in Poitiers, France, and a terribly destructive volcanic outbreak was experienced in New Zealand.

On January 26, 1882, a severe shock of earthquake was experienced at Centreville, Cal., preceded by a heavy shower of rain.

On February 14, 1882, a shock of five minutes' duration was felt at Lake City, Col. The shock was also violently felt at Capitol City, in the same State.

On December 19, 1882, two slight but distinctly perceptible shocks of earthquake lasting ten seconds were felt at Dover, N. H., accompanied by a rumbling noise. They were also felt in Rollinsford, Rochester, Contocook, Cou-

cord, and other towns in that State. The shocks traveled from east to west.

On January 21, 1881, an earthquake lasting about ten seconds was felt at Bath, Me., and throughout the neighboring country. At first there was a loud report followed by a rumbling sound, as of a heavy team passing over frozen ground. Windows rattled and distinct oscillations were felt.

On November 18, 1878, shocks were felt in the Mississippi Valley over an area of fully 100,000 square miles. The region of greatest disturbance was along the Mississippi from Cairo to Memphis, and along the Missouri from Glasgow to Lexington.

On September 27, 1882, a slight shock was felt in St. Louis. A rolling noise was followed by twelve distinct vibrations at intervals of a second. The first vibration was the most violent. The shock lasted about fifteen seconds. Springfield and Centralia, Ill., experienced the same shock.

There was a disastrous earthquake in Mexico, in June, 1858, extending throughout the valley in which the capital is situated and doing great damage. The West Indies have long been notoriously subject to seismic disturbances. Port Royal, the capital of Jamaica, was sunk into the sea by a shock on June 7, 1692. A volcano resembling Stromboli in its intermittent action was thrown up near the capital of San Salvador in 1770, and numerous earthquake shocks were felt both before and afterward. A century later, on March 19, 1873, the city of San Salvador was entirely wrecked by three successive shocks, and 500 lives were lost. In South America, Caracas, Venezuela, was destroyed on March 26, 1812, and Quito, Ecuador, was almost annihilated on March 22, 1859. On August 16, 1868, a tremendous earthquake devastated a large portion of Ecuador, and extended all along the coast. Peru has been a great sufferer, Callao being destroyed in 1586 by a shock and a sea-wave ninety feet high, and again being overwhelmed in 1746, while Arica suffered much in August, 1763, from a great earthquake wave which extended to all the shores of the Pacific. In Chili in 1822 occurred an earthquake in which were noticed the remarkable twisting effects, and 100,000 square miles of land were permanently raised from two to seven feet. At midnight of February 20, 1835, the city of Concepcion was for the fourth time destroyed by an earthquake; 300 shocks were felt within two weeks; there was a sea-wave thirty feet high; and a submarine volcano near Juan Fernandez Island sent up a column of fiery ejecta through a depth of 500 feet of water. In April, 1852, there was a great earthquake extending throughout the southern part of South America, destroying 12,000 persons in Buenos Ayres.—New York Tribune.

[The most recent disturbance in the United States, the upheaval east of the Mississippi River and the partial destruction of Charleston, S. C., are so fresh in the public mind as to require no detailed description.—Ed.]

## The Mastodon of Books.

Just outside of London they are at work on the biggest book in the world. It will be more than four times as large as Webster's dictionary, and will contain something like 8,000 pages. The French have two dictionaries, that of M. Litre and of the Academy. The Worterbuch of the German brothers Grimms is still more exhaustive and authoritative. Even the Portuguese dictionary, by Vieira, is excellent. The British Philological Society holds that a dictionary should be an inventory of the language and that its doors should be opened to all words, good, bad and indifferent. This new work will not be confined to definitions and cross references. The life history of each word will be fully given, with a quotation from some standard writer, showing its shades of meaning and the variations in its usage from one generation to another. The work was originally started in 1859, but the death of editors, financial embarrassments and changes in the plans, have interrupted its progress. It is now hoped that the book may be pushed to its completion without unnecessary delay. The amount of research and reading yet to be accomplished is very great, and there are on hand some 3,000,000 or 4,000,000 slips which require patient classification. The next century will probably open before the dictionary can be completed.—Paper World.

An eminent German physicist recommends for the extinguishment of fire in closed places, where the use of water and other liquids would be likely to do great damage, a dry compound which, by its burning, absorbs the oxygen and quickly renders combustion impossible. The compound is composed of powdered nitrate of potash (saltpetre), fifty parts; powdered sulphur, thirty-six parts; powdered charcoal, four parts; colothal (brown red oxide of iron), one part. This preparation is one that can be cheaply made. It is recommended that it shall be, when thoroughly dried and mixed, put up in tight pasteboard boxes holding about five pounds each, with a quick fuse in the side of the box protruding six inches, with four inches in side—to facilitate and insure lighting it

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